(c) and (d) No, Sir. The area proposed for diversion is neither included in any National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary nor does it form part of any significant wildlife habitat.

Proposals under Forests Act, 1980 from State Government of Uttaranchal

385. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of proposals for granting approval under Forests Act, 1980 received from the State Government of Uttaranchal during the last two years;

(b) whether all the said proposals have been granted approval; and

(c) if not, reasons for not granting approval and by when all these schemes would be approved?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Out of total 264 proposals received from Government of Uttaranchal for approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during last two years (2002 and upto November, 2003), 179 proposals have been approved by Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Out of balance 85 proposals, 15 proposals have been rejected on merit and 70 proposals have been closed/returned to the State Government due to incomplete information.

Phasing out of use of CFCs

386. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is committed to phasing out of use of Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) which release ozone depleting Greenhouse Gases (GHGs);

(b) whether it is also a fact that India will receive US $ 52 million in aid to completely phase out the production and consumption of toxic chemical Carbon Tetrachloride; and

(c) if so, the details of funding?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Executive Committee of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, approved in principle, the total funding of US $ 52 million to be provided in instalments during the years 2004—2009 to support the implementation of the India Carbon Tetrachloride Phase-out plan for non-feedstock production and consumption sectors by 1.1.2010.

Out of US $ 52 million, US $ 10 million will be contributed bilaterally by the Government of France, Japan and Germany as per various funding modalities and work programmes. The remaining US $ 42 million will be disbursed by the Multilateral Fund for implementation of the Montreal Protocol through the Implementing Agency.

Special Courts for environment related cases in M.P.

387. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to open special courts in Madhya Pradesh for speedy disposal of environment related cases;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Government have no proposal to open special courts in Madhya Pradesh for speedy disposal of environment related cases.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Air and sound pollution in Delhi due to Metro Rail construction

388. SHRI S. K. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the average air and sound pollution in Delhi now and before the construction work of Delhi Metrol Rail started;

(b) whether any notice has been served to the metro authority to contain the air and sound pollution created by them; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No such study has been undertaken